THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Regents Communication

ACTION REQUEST

Subject: Report of Faculty Retirement
Action Requested: Adoption of Retirement Memoir

Thomas Saunders, Ph.D., research professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Genetic Medicine, Medical School, retired from active faculty status on June 30, 2022.

Dr. Saunders received his M.D. degree in 1984 from the University of Texas. Subsequently, he completed his postdoctoral research fellowship in immunogenetics from the University of Minnesota followed by his molecular genetics postdoctoral research fellowship from Howard Hughes Medical Institute. Dr. Saunders was recruited to the University of Michigan in 1989 as a research associate I and was promoted to a research associate II in 1992. In 1995, he was promoted to senior research associate and also named managing director of the Transgenic Animal Model Core at the University of Michigan Medical School. In 2001, Dr. Saunders joined the faculty as a research investigator in the Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Molecular Medicine and Genetics. He was promoted to research assistant professor in 2005, and then to research associate professor in 2010. In 2017, he was promoted to research professor, the position from which he now retires.

Under Dr. Saunders’ leadership, the University of Michigan Transgenic Animal Model Core has established an international reputation of excellence. This is one of the few transgenic core facilities that guarantee the production of transgenic mice and rats, offer BAC recombineering services, a complete suite of ES cell technologies, and comprehensive cryopreservation assisted reproduction technologies for mouse and rat.

In addition to his scholarly achievements, Dr. Saunders is a committed educator who has provided outstanding training and teaching both institutionally and internationally. Institutionally, Dr. Saunders has provided extensive service through his role as a member on the University of Michigan Comprehensive Cancer Center Cores Advisory Committee, the Advisory Committee on Primary Research Appointments, and the Medical School Rodent Overcrowding Task Force. He has also been very active in national and international societies, and currently serves as vice president of the International Society for Transgenic Technologies, Executive Council.

The Regents now salute this distinguished faculty member by naming Thomas Saunders, research professor emeritus, internal medicine.

Requested by:

Sally J. Churchill, J.D.
Vice President and Secretary of the University

June 2022